

~~-AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:~~

On page 1, before the first line of the specification, please amend the paragraph as follows:

This application is a continuation of commonly assigned co-pending application now U.S. Patent No. 6,658,568 B1, ^{go} Serial No. 09/426,764, filed October 26, 1999, which is a continuation of application ^{o 2/10/04}

Serial No. 09/398,665, filed September 17, 1999, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/699,712, filed August 12, 1996, now abandoned, which is a continuation - in-part of application Serial No. 08/388,107, filed February 13, 1995, now abandoned -- all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 8-17, with the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation in part of commonly assigned copending application Serial Number 08/388,107 of Ginter, et al., filed 13 February 1995, entitled "SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SECURE TRANSACTION MANAGEMENT AND ELECTRONIC RIGHTS PROTECTION," (attorney reference number 895-13) (hereafter "Ginter et al."), now abandoned. A file wrapper continuation of Application No. 08/388,107 issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,982,891. We incorporate by reference, into this application, the entire disclosure (including all of the drawings) of this prior-filed Ginter, et al. patent application just as if its entire written specification and drawings were expressly set forth in this application.

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